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WILDLIFE & FISHERIES PROGRAM

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SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST

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E. Lindquist

Reply to: 2620 Planning

Date: January 2, 1985

Subject: Wildlife Program Direction

To: Wildlife & Timber Management Staff Officer

Here is the approved Wildlife Program Direction for the Superior National Forest. The changes suggested by the Management Team appear to be incorporated in this final copy.

The Direction indicates that it is desirable to continue surveys to monitor nest occupancy and success, as well as to identify new territories. I agree with this direction; however it is also desirable, if not essential, that the amount of low level aircraft use over the BWCA be reduced. One of the action items resulting from the Forest GMR directed us to evaluate the need for all administrative use of motors in the wilderness. Our overall direction should include a positive attitude toward seeking non-motorized methods to accomplish our objectives.

This Program Direction has taken considerable effort to produce; however the results are excellent. I believe we now have a document which will prove to be very helpful in setting direction and scheduling work.

Clay D. Beal

CLAY D. BEAL
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

Introduction

The wildlife program on the Superior is in a transition between old program direction centered around diversity and new direction being developed in the Forest Plan. Events such as a wildlife program activity review, change in Forest Biologists and revision in Forest Service Manual 2600 all point toward the need to prepare a solid statement on wildlife program direction for the Superior.

This paper provides specific direction needed to begin implementing the standards and guidelines that affect the wildlife program contained in the Forest Plan. It builds on the contents of the plan, setting specific goals, objectives, priorities, responsibilities and funding needs. This paper, along with Forest Plan direction, will give the Superior a unified wildlife program and provide continuity from year to year.

Large-scale wildlife goals will be accomplished through coordination with other resources because their activities affect more acres, are better financed and greatly affects wildlife habitat.

Approval: Clay G. Beal 1-2-85

CLAY G. BEAL
Forest Supervisor

Date

I. Wildlife Program Direction Statement

The direction of the wildlife program on the Superior National Forest will be aimed at meeting these goals in order of priority:

1. Maintain all wildlife, fish and plant species at viable population levels or higher.

2. Recover endangered and threatened wildlife, fish and plant species.

3. Maintain and improve habitat for species with sensitiye habitat needs (as listed by the Forest Service and the State of Minnesota).

4. Improve the habitat for management indicator and emphasis species and provide for public use and enjoyment of them.

The Superior National Forest will maintain a close partnership with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in conducting habitat management efforts. Concerned individuals, groups and other Federal agencies will also be involved in activities affecting wildlife, fish and plants within the Superior.

Quantitative management objectives are necessary to meet wildlife (including fish and plant) habitat needs across the Forest. These objectives are developed in this program direction paper.

Three tools are necessary to meet these management objectives along with the many other obligations placed on the Superior's wildlife program. These tools are coordination with other resources, habitat improvement projects funded by wildlife and surveys to monitor populations and their habitat.

Coordination with other resources is essential to maintain wildlife populations Forest-wide. Timber management annually manipulates from 15,000 to 20,000 acres of habitat across the Forest. Wildlife expertise is necessary to develop and implement these and other resource projects and will be considered top priority.

Habitat improvement projects funded by wildlife are necessary to maintain and increase wildlife populations, especially when coordination with other resources is inadequate to meet species' needs. These projects are the necessary avenue for biologists to fine tune management actions and treat habitats on the scale needed to benefit many species. Creating forest openings and browse cuttings for white-tailed deer in winter range are examples of these projects.

Surveys are the measuring device necessary to determine and monitor the effects of Forest management practices on wildlife populations. Besides being required by law, these surveys alert us to declines in wildlife numbers before species become threatened or endangered. Surveys also allow us to monitor the success or failure of our habitat improvement recommendations and projects.

II. Goals and Objectives

Goals and objectives for the Superior National Forest wildlife program in 1984 and five years thereafter are described below. These have been developed following the wildlife program direction paper and the Forest Plan. They will form the basis to develop annual wildlife budgets and allocate District targets and objectives. Accomplishing these objectives is dependent on available funding shown in Table 3. If these goals and objectives receive priority attention and are accomplished, they will give the wildlife program a unified purpose and insure continuity from year to year.

1. Maintain all wildlife, fish and plant species at viable population levels or higher.

Objectives	Responsibility[1]	Due Date	Priority[2]
A. Coordinate wildlife, fish and plant needs with timber and recreation activities by reviewing and providing input to compartment prescriptions, timber sales, reforestation, TSI and other projects.	All Biologists	Ongoing	1
B. Conduct habitat improvement projects funded by wildlife to benefit wildlife, plant and fish species where coordination activities with timber management do not meet species' habitat requirements.	All Biologists	Ongoing	1
C. Identify and select Management Indicator Species. Prepare paper for input to draft Forest Plan.	Russ	01/01/85	1
D. Determine viable population levels and distribution for all species.	Russ, Strecker, Murel	01/01/85	1
E. Develop vegetation composition guidelines for each management area.	Russ, Strecker, Murel	01/01/85	1
F. Implement a monitoring program as directed by the Forest Plan using existing surveys where possible.	Strecker	Within six months of Forest Plan approval	1

[1]Team Leader

[2]See Table 2

Objectives	Responsibility	Due Date	Priority
G. Identify or develop methods to more effectively utilize or apply other agency's population surveys.	Strecker	Within six months of Forest Plan approval	2
H. Identify monitoring methods for Management Indicator Species not monitored by existing surveys.	Strecker	03/87	3
I. Work with research to determine species habitat relationships. Ongoing annual progress report.	Lindquist	12/85	3
J. Work with DNR on fisheries management plan for BWCA lakes and streams.	Lindquist	Ongoing	2
K. Work with DNR on designation of trout streams.	Lindquist	Ongoing	2

2. Recover endangered and threatened wildlife, fish and plant species.

Objectives	Responsibility	Due Date	Priority
A. Coordinate endangered and threatened species needs with timber and recreation activities by reviewing and providing input to compartment prescriptions, timber sales, reforestation, TSI and other projects and resources.	All Biologists	Ongoing	1
B. Conduct habitat improvement projects funded by wildlife to benefit endangered and threatened species where coordination activities do not meet species habitat requirements. Quantity accomplished depends on level of funding.	All Biologists	Ongoing	1
C. Establish two nesting pairs of peregrine falcons on the Superior National Forest by 1990 (Dependent on multi-agency and private funding sources.)		1990	1
1. Complete site management plan	Hoecker	Completed	1
2. Release five to 10 birds per year contingent upon a supply of peregrines.	Tofte/Gunflint Biologists	1984-89	1

Objectives	Responsibility	Due Date	Priority
D. Maintain habitat to support eastern timber wolf densities (Zone 1: to be established, Zone 2: 1/10 sq. mi., Zone 4: 1/50 sq. mi.).			
1. Prepare and submit recommended wolf density goal for Zone 1 outside of the BWCAW to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.	Russ	06/01/85	1
2. Initiate surveys to monitor wolf densities outside of currently surveyed areas.			
Methods paper -	Biebighauser	Completed	2
Implementation -	All District Biologists	04/86	2
3. Prepare and implement deer wintering area management plans.	All District Biologists	04/90	2
4. Evaluate roading standards and guidelines with road density objectives for Zone 1.	Russ	03/01/85	2
5. Prepare wildlife opening statement as it relates to deer and wolves. (This will be in conjunction with percent, size, range and distribution of openings developed by management area for the Forest Plan to cover all the indicator species.)	Russ	Completed	2
6. Set minimum and maximum densities for deer in moose management areas.	Strecker	01/01/85	2
E. Increase the number of nesting bald eagle pairs on the Superior National Forest to Regional Directive 2670 level (85).		2020	

Objectives	Responsibility	Due Date	Priority
1. Complete territory management plans.			
Outside BWCA -	All District Biologists	06/87	2
Inside BWCA -	All BWCA District Biologists	06/90	3
2. Coordinate with DNR concerning the removal of rough fish in eagle territories.	Lindquist	01/88	2
3. Conduct aerial nest searches during the winter, concentrating first on areas outside the BWCA.	Lindquist		
1985 - 20 hours		1985	2
1986 - 40 hours		1986	3
1987 - 40 hours		1987	3
1988 - 40 hours (or until recovery goal of 85 pairs is reached.)		1988	3
4. Identify and encourage research pertaining to eagle distribution, habitat needs, feeding requirements and potential eagle density on the Superior National Forest (i.e., can we support 85 breeding pairs?)	Lindquist	01/90	2
5. Continue spring and summer monitoring surveys.	All District Biologists	Ongoing	1
6. Evaluate and prepare recommendations for improving bald eagle survey techniques, including an analysis of aerial flights over the BWCAW.	Biebighauser completed	03/85	1
7. Review translocation policy and make it a written supplement.	Lindquist	06/85	3
F. Consider caribou reintroduction on the Superior National Forest.			
1. Reevaluate the proposal for reintroducing the woodland caribou (with MDNR assistance).	Lindquist Hoecker	01/90	3

3. Maintain and improve habitat for species with sensitive habitat needs.

Objectives	Responsibility	Due Date	Priority
A. Identify sensitive species.	Biebighauser	Completed	1
B. Determine area and density population targets for these species.	Biebighauser	02/85	1
C. Set standards and guidelines for attaining these populations in conjunction with M.I.S.	Biebighauser	02/85	2
D. Monitor these species to measure progress toward population targets.	Biebighauser	Within two years of Forest Plan approval	2

4. Improve the habitat for management indicator and emphasis species and provide for public use and enjoyment of them.

Objectives	Responsibility	Due Date	Priority
A. Set management area specific population targets in cooperation with Minnesota DNR for:			
Moose and Deer	Russ, Murel, Strecker	Completed	1
Others (determine priority)	Lindquist	06/87	2
B. Determine number of grouse management areas needed on Forest.	FitzPatrick	12/85	2
C. Establish vegetation composition guideline to achieve above stated population goals.	Strecker, Murel, Russ	Completed	1
D. Produce or acquire wildlife interpretive materials concentrating on wildlife species and management unique to northeastern Minnesota.			
1. Moose	Biebighauser	12/85	3
2. Wolf	Hoecker	08/84	3
3. Loon	Murel	12/85	3
4. Eagle	Murel	12/85	3
5. Fish	Bickel	12/85	3
6. Others (priorities to be determined)			

Objectives	Responsibility	Due Date	Priority
E. Produce, obtain approval and implement a Forest Wildlife I&I Program.	Rustad, Hoecker	11/85	3

5. Provide required support processes, techniques and procedures that are common to the achievement of stated goals (1 - 4).

Objectives	Responsibility	Due Date	Priority
A. Work with Forest Lands Section to identify, document and prioritize wildlife land acquisition needs.	Lindquist	05/15 (Annually)	1
B. Work with Forest Lands Section to prepare a format for standardized wildlife input into land exchanges.	Murel, Potter	Completed	1
C. Develop economic process for cost/benefit analysis of proposed projects and programs, including a format to distribute funds and targets to each District.	Potter, Lindquist	03/85	1
D. Identify, document and prioritize wildlife research needs. Actively recruit and solicit projects to fill these needs.	Lindquist	12/84 Yearly updated list	2
E. Develop, prioritize and implement a Forest Wildlife training needs and topics list.	Lindquist	August (Annually)	2
F. Develop an updated Forest Wildlife and Fish reporting system.	Hoecker, Biebighauser	06/85	2
G. Identify habitat inventory needs. Develop and implement the approach and methodologies to meet these identified needs.			
Interim - TMIS fields	Lindquist	09/85	2
Long-range	Lindquist	06/87	3
H. Prepare a format for standardized wildlife input into compartment prescriptions. Include check-lists and guidelines.	Biebighauser, Russ	12/85	3

Objectives	Responsibility	Due Date	Priority
I. Develop species habitat relationship data base to be used as input to EAs, land exchanges and the ID prescription process.	Hoecker, Russ	10/85	3
J. Identify potential uses of FLIPS to the wildlife program (standardized accomplishment reporting, consolidation of survey data, common Forest policy and direction filing system).	Hoecker	Reports due October each year	3
K. Identify, evaluate and select modeling systems that will help examine the consequences of management decisions.	Lindquist, Russ, Hoecker	10/85	3
L. Update, review and disseminate to all Districts the Forest's "Wildlife Book."	Murel	04/85	3
M. Complete a fisheries "overview" to assess current fisheries habitat needs and opportunities.	Fisheries Biologist	FY-85	1

III. Program Funding, Priorities and Accomplishments

Table 1 lists the possible objectives and habitat improvement projects in acres that will be accomplished under various Forest wildlife funding levels. Objectives listed in Section II of this paper will be met based on available funding. If funding is not available to meet objectives in any given year, those affected objectives will be delayed until funding is restored.

Table 1. Wildlife Program Funding, Priorities and Accomplishments

Level	Funding[1]	Objectives to Accomplish[2]	Habitat Improvement Acres	
			Wildlife	Fish
1	450,000	Goal 1 - Priority 1 Goal 2 - Priority 1	700	1,500
2	525,000	Goal 1 - Priorities 1, 2 Goal 2 - Priority 1	1,000	2,000
3	600,000	Goal 1 - Priorities 1, 2, 3 Goal 2 - Priorities 1, 2 Goal 3 - Priority 1 Goal 5 - Priority 1	1,400	2,500
4	675,000	Goal 1 - Priorities 1, 2, 3 Goal 2 - Priorities 1, 2, 3 Goal 3 - Priorities 1, 2 Goal 4 - Priority 1 Goal 5 - Priorities 1, 2	2,000	3,000
5	750,000	Goal 1 - Priorities 1, 2, 3 Goal 2 - Priorities 1, 2, 3 Goal 3 - Priorities 1, 2, 3 Goal 4 - Priorities 1, 2 Goal 5 - Priorities 1, 2, 3	2,500	4,000

[1] Functions 080, 081, 082, 083, 084; not including wildlife KV, FY 1985 dollars

[2] See Section II

IV. Habitat Improvement Projects Funded by Wildlife

Habitat improvement projects funded from wildlife budget allocations are essential to maintain viable populations of wildlife across the Forest and to recover endangered and threatened species. The quantity of projects conducted each year is dependent on funding as shown in Table 3.

Following these general guidelines will help insure that maximum benefits are obtained from each habitat improvement project:

1. The project should comply with the priorities stated in this program direction paper.

2. The project should not be capable of being completed through coordination with other resources.

3. The project should consider economics in its development and implementation.

Considering wildlife needs as directed by this paper and from a historical perspective, habitat improvement projects will generally fit into these categories and match these percentages when considered Forest-wide for any given year:

Table 2. Habitat Improvement Projects - Forest-wide

Project Type	Average Composite %
Openings - Creation and Maintenance	50
Natural Regeneration[a]	15
Snag Marking	10
Inclusions, Reforestation[b]	10
Nest Boxes	10
Other[c]	5

[a]Browse cuttings for deer, moose

[b]Generally winter cover for species

[c]Aquatic seeding, trails, etc.

Appendix 1. The Manual as it Pertains to Wildlife Program Direction

The 2600 sections of the Forest Service Manual and Handbook outlines policies, objectives and goals for the nation's wildlife program that directly apply to the Superior's program. They contain direction on what populations should be maintained and emphasized, how to do this and who is responsible for doing this.

The following policy statements made in FSM 2603 directly apply to Superior's wildlife program:

1. Serve the American people by maintaining diverse and productive wildlife, fish and sensitive plant habitats as a integral part of managing National Forest ecosystems. This includes recovery of threatened or endangered species, maintenance of viable populations of all vertebrates and plants and production of featured species commensurate with public demand, multiple-use objectives and resource allocation determined through land management planning process.

2. Maintain a partnership with State fish and wildlife agencies in habitat management efforts. Recognize the State wildlife and fish agencies as responsible for the management of animals and the Forest Service as responsible for the management of habitat. Involve other Federal agencies, concerned conservation groups and individuals in activities affecting wildlife and fish as appropriate.

3. Resolve habitat management issues, concerns and opportunities as close to the local level as possible.

4. Specify quantitative wildlife, fish and sensitive plant habitat objectives and standards in the RPA Program, Regional guides, Forest Plans and Sikes Act schedules.

5. Develop a balanced program that meets goals by investing directly in habitat improvements when necessary to meet public demand and coordinate management activities that produce other resources to restore or mitigate habitat losses or provide improved habitat.

6. Use Wildlife and Fish Habitat Relationships classifications, models and procedures in quantitative habitat evaluations, planning for diversity, viable populations and management indicator species habitat productivity and to support monitoring of fish and wildlife resources.

7. Give coequal consideration to wildlife and fish habitat with other resources in Forest Service programs.

8. Involve Research and other scientists in the development of strategies to resolve major issues and concerns and identify management opportunities in order to foster awareness of management needs and gain timely application of new insights and information.

9. Acquire habitats or adjust ownership patterns to meet wildlife, fish and plant habitat goals and objectives identified through Forest planning.

The objectives for the nation's wildlife program, contained in FSM 2602 and summarized below, parallel the wildlife program direction paper for the Superior:

1. Maintain ecosystem diversity and productivity by:

   a. Recovering threatened or endangered species.

   b. Maintaining at least viable populations of all species.

   c. Producing habitat capability levels to meet sustained yield objectives relative to demand for featured and management indicator species identified in RPA and Forest plans.

2. Provide diverse opportunities for esthetic, consumptive and scientific uses of wildlife, fish and sensitive plant resources in accordance with National, Regional, State and local demands.

A major goal in FSM 2600 is that the status of threatened and endangered species be improved so that they can be removed from the listing under the Endangered Species Act. Both Federal and State listed species are included in this goal.

The manual states that for each listed species, its occurrence, distribution and critical habitat needs must be determined so that management activities can be monitored and conducted to improve their status. Wildlife and fish habitat will become the primary land use in areas essential to their survival. This primary land use extends into sensitive species habitat requirements and species on which National Forest lands provide a major portion of their key habitat (FSM 2603).

In manual section 2603 it states that the wildlife goals should be accomplished first through coordination with other resources and second through direct capital investment. Areas of damaged habitat should be restored where possible for these wildlife species.

Accomplishing these goals and following these policies is the responsibility of the Forest Supervisor and District Ranger, as stated in Section 2604. Coordination and wildlife input into the decision-making process along with on the ground supervision of land management activities is included in their responsibilities.

The Regional 2600 Manual Supplement for wildlife follows the national direction and goes into greater detail in some areas. The supplement states that each Forest should adopt vegetation composition guides to insure that habitats are provided to maintain wildlife populations on each Forest. The composition guides provide for the maintenance of regeneration, immature, mature and old-growth plant communities for wildlife needs.

The supplement emphasizes the need to provide habitat for threatened and endangered species. It makes detailed management recommendations for bald eagle habitat needs. A listing of wildlife species with sensitive habitat needs including species on the Superior is included in the supplement. Detailed management guidelines for osprey habitat protection are listed in this section.

Appendix 2. Expanded Wildlife Program Direction Statements

1. Maintain wildlife, fish and plant species at or above viable population levels.

Populations of wildlife, fish and plant species should be maintained Forest-wide at or above viable population levels (FSM 2602). Management indicator species will be the tool used to accomplish this goal (36 CFR 219.19). These species will be selected because their population levels are believed to indicate the effects of Forest management practices on them and other species with similar habitat requirements (36 CFR 219.19(A)1).

The population levels of indicator species will be monitored and their relationships to habitat determined as stated in the Forest Plan. Monitoring will be done in cooperation with the Minnesota DNR and other wildlife agencies such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the University of Minnesota (36 CFR 219.19(A)6). Vegetation composition guidelines will be developed and used to aid in maintaining habitat for viable populations of species.

2. Endangered and Threatened Species

A priority of the wildlife program on the Superior will be to improve the status of threatened and endangered wildlife species. Forest Service Manual 2600, policy letters from the Chief and the Draft Forest Plan emphasize the importance of managing these species. This priority must be reflected in the Forest as well as in each District's wildlife program.

We, on the Superior, have the unique opportunity and responsibility to manage for three threatened and endangered species. The endangered peregrine falcon, now extirpated, once inhabited the Superior and currently migrates over the Forest. The threatened bald eagle and timber wolf occur on the Forest in respectable densities. How we manage the land, whether it be through road construction, timber harvest or campsite placement can have positive or negative impacts on their populations.

Managing to improve the status of threatened and endangered species depends on implementing the recovery plans approved for them. Recovery plans have been approved for the peregrine falcon, eastern timber wolf and bald eagle. Strategies for improving their status generally center around establishing density objectives by unit area for each species and its prey, following guidelines to protect each species and its habitat and manipulating habitats to reach these density objectives.

General guidelines for improving the status of each threatened and endangered species are given as follows:

Peregrine Falcon: The Regional Guide lists as a goal the establishment of two nesting pairs on the Superior National Forest. The peregrine falcon recovery plan identifies the portion of the Superior National Forest along the shore of Lake Superior and along the Pigeon River as a potential release area for the peregrine. It lists this area as being the lowest in priority for release of the 11 areas identified because of logistical problems and the need for an International agreement with Canada.

Potential release sites on National Forest land within this area have been inventoried and prioritized according to their physical characteristics and ease of administrative access. Areas with the highest potential for release occur on the Tofte District near the shore of Lake Superior and are inland from Highway 61. These sites have good administrative access, excellent physical characteristics and are distant from Canada, probably eliminating the need for an International agreement.

Bald Eagle: Regional Directive 2670 states that the goal for the Superior National Forest is to have 85 active bald eagle territories before the species is considered "recovered." To achieve this goal it is necessary to continue monitoring bald eagle territory occupancy and nest production, prepare management plans for each territory and to pursue new information on bald eagle nesting and feeding requirements.

Surveys must be continued for monitoring nest occupancy and success. Failure to do this will impair our knowledge of when the eagle recovers. Additional surveys should be conducted during the winter months when nests are most visible to identify new territories.

Management plans for each territory must be completed and contain measures for protection and enhancement of the nesting and feeding resource in the area. It is important to work with the Minnesota DNR, Section of Fisheries, to insure that proposed activities maintain or improve the food resource around bald eagle territories.

Eastern Timber Wolf: The primary objective is to maintain and restore viable populations of eastern timber wolves in as much of its former range as possible. In order to do this, it is important to follow the Eastern Timber Wolf Recovery Plan. Following the Recovery Plan is an objective stated in the Draft Forest Plan.

The Recovery Plan emphasizes the need to improve forest composition to support deer, moose and beaver populations for maintaining wolf densities. The Plan directs us to increase the carrying capacity of winter deer yards and to discourage the development, settlement or modification of habitat that might reduce wolf populations or restrict their recovery.

Deer density objectives for the Superior National Forest have been discussed between Forest Service and Minnesota DNR Biologists. How these density objectives relate to the maintenance of wolf populations should be coordinated with the Wolf Recovery Team. Moose density objectives for the Superior are being developed by the Minnesota DNR in conjunction with the Forest Service. Density objectives for beaver are not available.

The wolf's continued survival on the Superior National Forest depends on the continued availability of its prey and especially on the maintenance of the unsettled nature of its land. It is imperative to continue to improve surveys being conducted to monitor wolf, beaver, moose and deer densities so that habitat management practices can be improved and prescribed more effectively.

3. Sensitive Species

Maintaining and improving habitat for species with sensitive habitat needs is listed as high priority, next to endangered and threatened species in the Forest Service Manual 2600, 2670 and in the Draft Forest Plan.

The Superior is directed to maintain habitats for sensitive species to support populations at or above viable levels. The main management objective is to keep these species off State, and ultimately, Federal lists through positive planning and management.

Forest Service habitat management guidelines are limited for these species. Guidelines do exist for osprey and great blue herons. Density objectives for sensitive species by unit area have not been developed. Information on how to maintain habitats for these species is contained in the literature and will have to be compiled for Forest Service use.

For a listing of those species with sensitive habitat needs see:

1. FSM 2670, Region 9 Draft Directives

2. Draft Forest Plan

3. State of Minnesota - Endangered, Threatened Species List

4. Public Use and Enjoyment of Wildlife Species

Providing for public use and enjoyment of wildlife species is directed in a variety of sources (Regional policy, goals and objectives statement; FSM 2600).

Two avenues exist through which this goal may be accomplished. One is through increased production of selected species over and above minimum viable populations and the other is through the increased utilization of existing populations. In either case, the two primary outputs or measure of accomplishment will be:

1. Habitat capability

2. Wildlife and fish user days (WFUDs) (FSM 2621.2)

Habitat capability, whenever practical, shall be estimated and expressed in terms of numbers of animals, pounds of fish or acres of sensitive plant habitat (FSM 2621.2). Proposed projects or actions should be evaluated in terms of changes in habitat capability or wildlife and fish user days.

Using the approach of increased production to satisfy this goal, area specific population objectives will be set in cooperation with the Minnesota DNR. These population objectives will reflect the public's desire to hunt and view selected wildlife species. These objectives will relfect the area's inherent biological potential as well as the agency's limited time, budget and personnel. An example of such an objective is stabilizing the winter deer herd in the Jonvick deer yard at 100 deer per square mile. This objective has all of the below listed elements:

1. It is area specific (eight square miles on the North Shore of Lake Superior).

2. The population density figure was jointly set and agreed to by the USDA Forest Service and Minnesota DNR.

3. It is certainly within the area's biological capability to sustain 100 deer per square mile.

4. It is the public's expressed desire to maintain a healthy deer herd on the North Shore for both consumptive and non-consumptive uses. Area specific population objectives for selected species will be set in our 1985 program of work. These objectives will help target our limited wildlife resources to achieve the above stated goals.

The other avenue to provide for the public use and enjoyment of wildlife species is through the increased utilization of existing populations. All of the actions in this area are directed toward increasing Wildlife and Fish User Days rather than altering Habitat Capability. Objectives in this area include:

1. Developing an information package describing opportunities for greater enjoyment of wildlife and fish on the National Forests.

2. Developing, in cooperation with local, State and Federal agencies, and private groups, specific programs to help the public better understand the relationships of wildlife and fish to their habitats.

3. Informing the public of the type and location of fish and wildlife recreational opportunities on National Forest System lands.

These objectives are described in the Regional policy, goals and objectives statement of wildlife.

Increased utilization of the wildlife resource will be critical in meeting the future demand for WFUDs. Increased production through habitat manipulation in itself will not keep pace with demand due to the biological constraints of the land.

The 1985 wildlife program of work will list specific actions to increase the public's utilization of the Forest's wildlife resource. This, in turn, will increase WFUD production which is one of the two primary measures of wildlife accomplishment.